

I support the requirement for Morse Code proficiency leading to amateur HF operations. However, I do support Technician Class having Novice band privileges on HF. The no code Technician license was a great thing for boosting interest in amateur radio but Morse Code serves as a qualifier for those disciplined enough to pursue the science and skill required for higher privileges. I achieved novice at age 13 and Extra at age 18. I also achieved 2nd Class Radiotelegraph with Radar Endorsement at age 18 as fallout from my amateur hobby along with a 1st Class Radio Telephone. I became an Electronic Engineer. Not all people are this interested or driven. As such, let them achieve slower code, less technical expertise and use the segments of the band tailored to that service but please do not cheapen my achievements or those of others like me. Code requires discipline and discipline makes for more mature and skilled operators. Thank you. Lee Barrett, K7NM